

LOUISIANA
THIRD QUARTER 2003 EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES
SUBJECT TO THE LOUISIANA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY LAW

The average quarterly employment for Louisiana during third quarter 2003 was 1,843,230, a decrease of 1.0% from the second quarter 2003, and an increase of 0.02% from the same period in 2002. Employment increased in seven of the 20 NAICS sectors from the second quarter 2003. The largest percentage increase of 10.8% was in agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting. Average quarterly employment by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

Health care and social assistance was the leading industry in the state with 260,746 employees, or 14.1% of total employment. RLMA one was the leading region with 596,869 employees, or 32.4% of total employment.

Average quarterly employment data for third quarter 2003, second quarter 2003, third quarter 2002, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – Third Quarter 2003" on page 3. Louisiana's average employment distribution by NAICS sectors and RLMA can be found in the charts on pages 4 and 5 respectively.

Total wages increased 2.9% from the same period in 2002, and decreased by 1.1% from second quarter 2003. The average weekly wage for third quarter 2003 was \$579.21.

Average weekly wage data for each RLMA is listed in the following table. Average weekly wage data by NAICS sector and subsector is shown in the table "Louisiana Statewide" beginning on page 6.

Parish	Avg. Wkly. Wage
RLMA 1	\$ 627.24
RLMA 2	582.20
RLMA 3	587.92
RLMA 4	576.12
RLMA 5	555.73
RLMA 6	489.82
RLMA 7	536.40
RLMA 8	488.78

The number of reporting units for third quarter 2003 was 117,086, an increase of 502 units, or 0.4% from second quarter 2003, and an increase of 1,531 units, or 1.3% from the same period in 2002. The number of reporting units for third quarter 2003, second quarter 2003, third quarter 2002, and the percent change for the major industry sectors is shown in the table "Louisiana Average Employment and Units – Third Quarter 2003" on page 3.

Due to the conversion to NAICS, this data should not be compared to data in publications prior to first quarter 2001.

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